

WILSON READS HIS ULTIMATUM

"I HAVE deemed it my duty, therefore," the president told congress today, he had informed the imperial German government, "that if it still is its purpose to prosecute its relentless and indiscriminate warfare there is but one course it can pursue; and that unless the imperial German government should now immediately declare and affect abandonment of its present methods of warfare against passenger and freight carrying vessels, this government can have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations altogether."

Germany Must Stop U-Boat War on Ships Now, or Break with U.S.

President Paints U-Boat Warfare Rank Barbarism

President Reviews Long Series of Submarine Outrages, Gives Congress Text of Strong Demand but Suggests no Action to Lawmakers.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—President Wilson stood before the congressmen and senators of the United States in joint session in the house chamber this afternoon and told them that he had sent an ultimatum to Germany that would result in the severing of diplomatic relations between the two countries unless Germany agrees to stop her submarine warfare against passenger ships and freight vessels immediately.

No time limit was put in the demand.

No action was suggested to congress.

The inference was that all of the future is up to the kaiser.

The president said:

"Gentlemen of the congress: A situation has arisen in the foreign relations of the country of which it is my plain duty to inform you very frankly. It will be recalled that in February, 1915, the imperial German government announced its intention to treat the waters surrounding Great Britain and Ireland as embraced within the zone of war and to destroy all merchant ships owned by its enemies that might be found within any part of that portion of the high seas and that it warned all vessels of neutral as well as of belligerent ownership to keep out of the waters it had thus prescribed, or else enter them at their peril.

Early Protest Against Policy.

"The government of the United States earnestly protested. It took the position that such a policy could not be pursued without the practical certainty of gross and palpable violations of the law of nations, particularly if submarine craft were to be employed as its instruments inasmuch as the rules prescribed by that law, rules founded upon principles of humanity and established for the protection of the lives of combatants at sea, could not in the nature of the case be observed by such vessels.

Protest Based on Old Law.

"It based its protest on the ground that persons of neutral nationality and vessels of neutral ownership would be exposed to examination and intolerable risks and that no right to close any part of the high seas against their use or to expose them to such risks could lawfully be asserted by any belligerent government. The law of nations in these matters, upon which the government of the United States based its protest, is not of recent origin or founded upon merely arbitrary principles set up by convention. It is based, on the contrary, upon manifest and imperative principles of humanity and has long been established with the approval and by the express assent of all civilized nations.

Requests Go Unheeded.

"Notwithstanding the earnest protest of our government the imperial German government at once proceeded to carry out the policy it had announced. It expressed the hope that the dangers involved, at any rate the dangers to neutral vessels, would be reduced to a minimum by the instructions which it had issued to its submarine commanders, and assured the government of the United States that it would take every possible precaution, both to respect the rights of neutrals and to safeguard the lives of non-combatants.

Ruthless War Carried On.

"What actually happened in the year which has since elapsed has shown that those hopes were not justified, those assurances insupportable of being fulfilled. In pursuance of the policy of submarine warfare against the commerce of its adversaries, thus announced and entered upon by the imperial German government in despite of the solemn protest of this government, the commanders of German undersea vessels have attacked merchant ships with greater and greater activity, not only upon the high seas surrounding Great Britain and Ireland, but wherever they could encounter them in a way that has grown more and more ruthless, more and more indiscriminate as the months have gone by, less and less observant of restraints of any kind, and have delivered their attacks without compunction against vessels of every nationality and bound on every sort of errand.

Warning Lacking in Many Cases.

"Vessels of neutral ownership, even vessels of ownership bound from neutral port to neutral port, have been destroyed, along with vessels of belligerent ownership, in constantly increasing numbers. Sometimes the merchantmen attacked have been warned and summoned to surrender before being fired on or torpedoed; sometimes passengers or crews have been rescued; the poor security of being allowed to take to the ship's boats before she was sent to the bottom. But again and again no warning has been given; no escape even to the ships' boats allowed to those on board.

Attacks Not Reasonable.

"What this government foresaw must happen has happened. Tragedy has followed tragedy on the seas in such fashion, with such attendant circumstances as to make it grossly evident that warfare of such a sort, if warfare it can be called, cannot be carried on without the most palpable violation of the dictates of right and humanity. Whatever the disposition and intention of the imperial German government, it has manifestly proved impossible for it to keep such methods of attack upon the commerce of its enemies within the bounds set by either the reason or the heart of mankind.

Cites German Promises.

"In February of the present year the imperial German government informed this government and the other neutral governments of the world that it had reason to believe that the government of Great Britain had armed all merchant vessels of British ownership and had given them secret orders to attack any submarine of the enemy they might encounter upon the seas and that the imperial German government felt justified in the circumstances in treating all merchantmen of belligerent ownership as auxiliary vessels of war which it would have the right to destroy without warning. The law of nations has long recognized the right of merchantmen to carry arms for protection and to use them to repel attack, though to use them in such circumstances at their own risk; but the imperial German government claimed the right to set these

Nation's Chief Is Humanity's Voice, World-Wide Today



President Woodrow Wilson.

VON IGEL HELD DESPITE DEMAND

Von Bernstorff Fails So Far to Secure Prisoner or Papers in Bomb Plot Case.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, conferred with Secretary Lansing at 11:30 o'clock Wednesday morning. The engagement was made at the ambassador's request.

It was revealed that the ambassador went to the state department not to discuss the submarine situation but to make a formal demand for the return of papers which department of justice agents seized from Wolff von Igel, private secretary to Captain Von Papen, the withdrawn military attaché, in New York yesterday.

The papers seized by federal agents Tuesday in the office of Wolff von Igel, former secretary of Captain Franz von Papen, recalled German military attachés, will not be returned, neither will the prosecution of von Igel for his alleged participation in the Wiltland canal plot be dropped, Assistant United States Attorney Roger B. Woods, said today.

Von Igel is at liberty under \$20,000 bail. A hearing on his case is set for next Tuesday. Federal prosecutors asserted that he would be released only upon instructions from the attorney general in Washington.

The one-year-and-a-half-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Sharp in Packtown fell from the second story of the Sharp residence this morning to the pavement underneath the window.

A miracle saved the child from death or dangerous hurts. When doctors arrived they failed to find any bones broken or that the infant was injured in any manner.

The baby was watching teams and autos as they passed in front of the house when the accidental fall occurred. It is supposed that the window was raised and the screen fastened, but in some manner the latter became unhooked, allowing the child to fall out.

The father of the baby is employed in one of the packing plants.

ARMY IN MEXICO IDLY BIDES NEXT-DIPLOMACY MOVE

General Belief Is German Situation Will Bear on Pursuit Continuation.

TROOPS GATHERED TO GO ON OR COME HOME

Outlying Detachments Have Been Drawn in; Withdrawal Is Main Border Topic.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—Decision of the Washington government upon the question as to whether the American forces hunting Villa shall be recalled or reinforced for further operations Wednesday awaited the receipt of further reports from American forces in Mexico. General Funston also has submitted a lengthy report on the situation and additional advice from him are momentarily expected. Meanwhile indications are that the chase for Villa is at a standstill.

Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the army, will go to San Antonio, Texas, Wednesday night by order of Secretary Baker in order to get accurate information as to the situation on the border and in Mexico.

Mission is important.

Secretary Baker would not discuss General Scott's mission. It was assumed, however, that his report, after the conference with General Funston, will go far toward determining the course to be pursued in Mexico.

It is known that General Funston has been urging the department that he be permitted to shift his headquarters and the border base in order to shorten his line of communication. The department has not thus far approved the suggestion although the request was before the cabinet Tuesday.

The general belief here is that the German situation would have some effect on the pending decision. Should a break in diplomatic relations occur, it was pointed out that the troops in Mexico would be needed at home. It was suggested that, inasmuch as the main purpose of the expedition—the protection of the border—has been accomplished, an agreement for the withdrawal might be reached with General Carranza on the basis that if Villa or his bandits again head northward American troops would again cross the international line.

Concentration Is a Fact.

Confirmation of reports that the American expeditionary force was being concentrated at three points in Mexico specially for the withdrawal of troops or the organization of a new and more extensive campaign was received in El Paso from Mexican sources.

It was said that General Pershing had withdrawn all outlying detachments south of Nampulco and that in the neighborhood of 2,000 men were camped at San Antonio, twelve miles west of Cuahuila and that a force estimated at almost double this number was being concentrated near Nampulco.

The belief that the American troops are about to leave Mexico is widespread among the Mexicans in Juarez and has completely changed the attitude of the people who, after the Parral incident, gave marked indications of hostility toward Americans.

Europe's Strong Man Confronted By New Dilemma



William II, Emperor of Germany.

ASQUITH TODAY CONFRONTS FATE

English Commons Await Anxiously Premier's Decision on Conscscription.

LONDON, April 19.—Interest in Wednesday's session of the house of commons is as keen as ever. Despite overnight rumors of a truce which will temporarily avert the cabinet resignations freely predicted Tuesday political tension is still acute, pending Premier Asquith's statement on conscription which appears to be the root of the whole trouble.

In the house of commons Wednesday Premier Asquith stated that there were still some material points of disagreement in the cabinet and if they were not settled, the result must be the break up of the government.

Although the cabinet was in session more than three hours Wednesday, it was unable to reach an agreement on the recruiting problem, and when the house of commons met Premier Asquith was compelled further to postpone his statement until Tuesday next, saying that unless an agreement could be reached, the issue would be a breakup of the coalition government.

Last Word of U.S. May Mean War If Germany Insists

Wilson's Ultimatum Now on Way to Kaiser; Sinking of Unarmed Merchant Vessels by U-Boats Must Stop Immediately or Break Is Certain.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—President Wilson told congress, assembled in joint session shortly after 1 o'clock this afternoon, he had given Germany irrevocable notification that the United States will break off diplomatic relations if her illegal submarine campaign is continued.

Immediate Reply Demanded.

A note—America's last word, practically an ultimatum and demanding an immediate reply—presumably was in the Berlin office as the president was speaking. It was dispatched last night in accordance with the president's plan to have it before the German government at the same moment he was addressing the American congress.

Congress Not Asked to Take Any Step.

The president asked no action whatever of congress. He simply informed it of the accumulation of facts proving that Germany's assurances to the United States are being violated; that the submarine campaign despite the earnest protests of the United States is being conducted with renewed vigor in contravention of all the laws of nations and humanity and that he means to sever relations unless it is brought within the law. Diplomatic history of the world shows that such a course is almost certain to be followed by war.

Germany Must Bend.

The president's note and his address to congress are final. They mark the trend of diplomatic negotiations. A continuance of the long-standing friendly relations, the president made clear, depends alone upon Germany's conduct.

Lansing to See Bernstorff Thursday.

Secretary Lansing today informed Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, that he was ready to discuss the submarine situation with him and a conference probably will be arranged for tomorrow. Yesterday Secretary Lansing informed him he could not discuss the subject.

The text of the note to Germany will be given out by the state department probably for publication tomorrow morning.

Women Swarm Galleries.

Representatives of the allied countries filled the diplomatic galleries of the house. Women ruled in the public galleries, less than twenty men finding places in the six hundred seats. Mrs. Wilson was in the executive gallery. In the cabinet party were Secretaries Lansing, Baker, Houston and Wilson, Attorney General Gregory and Postmaster General Burleson.

The vice president and senators arrived at 12:50 o'clock and marched in double file down the center aisle, members of the house rising and remaining standing until they were seated.

President Is Cheered.

While the senators were taking their seats President Wilson reached the capitol and waited in Speaker Clark's office just outside the chamber. As the president entered the chamber just before 1 o'clock, senators, representatives, cabinet and galleries rose. An outburst of applause gave way to loud cheering. During this demonstration the president shook hands with the speaker and the vice president and then bowed to the assemblage.

Audience Is a Serious One.

The president began his address, speaking slowly and distinctly. His voice was heard throughout the chamber.

As the president began the review of the German submarine campaign, there was no demonstration to punctuate his recital of the sacrifice of American lives. Not a sigh was heard above the president's voice as he spoke the name Lusitania.

Every head bowed forward as the president indicated that he was approaching the keynote of his message, the announcement of the course he will pursue.

Silence Tense at Climax.

When he pronounced the words of the ultimatum declaring that unless Germany should immediately declare and effect an abandonment of indiscriminate submarine warfare, this government would have no choice but to sever diplomatic relations, there was still no demonstration, only a tense silence and a reflection of the gravity of his words.

When he concluded with expression of hope that Germany would so act to avert a regrettable break with America, the assembly broke into cheers.

Speech Fifteen Minutes Long.

It was 1:14 o'clock when the president concluded. He had spoken just fifteen minutes. Applause started from the democratic side and the republican members then joined in. Democratic members began rising to their feet and soon the entire assemblage was standing. The applause lasted perhaps a minute, and then, as the president passed out of the chamber, died away.

Speaker Clark declared the joint session at an end, and the senators filed out. The galleries quickly were deserted. Speaker Clark referred the address to the foreign affairs committee and the house resumed its regular business.

Clark and Kitchin Refuse to Comment.

Speaker Clark and Democratic Leader Kitchin declined to comment on the address. They said they desired to digest it fully before saying anything.

"The sending of a note to Germany was as mild a position as the president could take," said Representative Flood, chairman of the foreign affairs committee. "I think that it will meet with the approval of congress and the country."

Mann Thinks He Should Be Neutral.

"I think this government should be neutral," said Republican Leader Mann.

Where U. S. Army Measures Stand

HAY HOUSE BILL

Provides for peace strength army of 140,000.

CHAMBERLAIN SENATE BILL

Provides for regular army and reserve of million men.

Federal volunteer reserve of 261,000 men.

Federalized National Guard of 280,000 men.

Creation of school and college reserve of 250,000.

Appropriation of \$15,000,000 for construction of government plants for production of nitrates to be used in manufacturing ammunition.

Provision for vocational education of enlisted men.

Creation of a National Guard section in the general staff of the army.

Provision for federal pay of all National Guard officers above the rank of captain.

COMPROMISE

Conference of house and senate will be called immediately to decide on substitute bill.

Boy, Trying to Ride Log, Is Drowned

The North Canadian claimed another victim at noon today when Edward Shushon, 2 years old, fell into the stream and was drowned.

The little fellow, in company with his brother, aged 6, and several neighborhood boys, was playing along the bank of the stream near the Shannon home, 400 East Chickasaw. The smaller Shannon boy stepped onto a log floating near the bank. The log turned, throwing Edward into the water.

One of the boys in the group swam to the rescue and hauled the child to the shore. Edward was dead.

The body was taken to the home of Edward's stepfather, Tom Ivy, at 400 East Chickasaw.

The stepfather stated in a reporter for The Times that this was the first time the boy had ever gone to the banks of the river and it was only because other boys had started to that direction that the little fellow followed.